

Hello AOPT Foot and Ankle SIG members! This newsletter marks the transition of our FASIG leadership as Dr. Frank DiLiberto steps in as President and Dr. Christopher Neville steps away after 2 completed terms. We would like to thank the membership for their sustained engagement and preview some of the plans we have for the future.

FASIG members – over the past 6 years it has been truly a pleasure to work with the membership and the AOPT as we developed FASIG interest and content. In 2011 I took my first leadership role with the FASIG, offering to help develop entry-level foot and ankle curricular guidelines. This first experience connecting to an outstanding group of people was truly rewarding. It was this experience that led me to run for President in 2016 that serendipitously has circled back to the development of an advanced fellowship curriculum for foot and ankle specialty practice in 2022, during my final year. Again, this was possible with great people who have tremendous insight into specialty practice and a genuine focus on advancing the profession. Overall, the FASIG is full of insightful and dedicated people who make the SIG successful, and exciting to work with to complete tasks. I look back on great initiatives the FASIG led including the CSM SIG social that brought together our membership and some key industry partners. The FASIG formally executed the first memorandum of understanding with an external partner when we finalized our partnership with the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society (AOFAS) in 2019. We continue to foster this relationship today with webinars and joint annual programming. At this time the FASIG is over 700 members strong, has a student led intern program that develops quarterly newsletters, developed a leadership award, developed the first AOPT infographics to translate evidence-based information to clinicians, and continues to advance foot and ankle specialty content to CSM each year. Additionally, the SIG has used author spotlights to highlight current and innovative research to share with the membership. It has truly been a pleasure to work with the SIG for the last 6 years and I look forward to seeing many of the SIG initiatives continue in the future. Frank and I have known each other for many years and the FASIG is certainly in great hands as we look to the future.

*Christopher Neville, PT, PhD
FASIG President 2016-2022*

FASIG members – I look forward to the next 3 years with optimism. Great strides have been made under Chris's leadership. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for how much has been accomplished; I certainly have big shoes to fill (lame pun fully intended). I am grateful for the support of you all as I begin my term and I feel fortunate for the opportunity to lead, work with you, and grow our momentum as a SIG. Long term, I intend to support the development of a foot and ankle fellowship and the continuation of the number of fantastic FASIG activities mentioned above. Here are some things to look out for in the more immediate future:

- Next Virtual Membership Meeting - tentatively slated for April 2022. Please join us to reconnect or introduce yourself and learn about FASIG initiatives and activities that you might be inter-

ested in and able to assist with. Come to share your thoughts as we preview newer ideas including a larger social media presence, an abstract of the month, the potential expansion of our author spotlight series into an accredited educational opportunity, as well as to discuss the status of current initiatives. Speaking of...

- Foot and Ankle AOPT Infographics - creation of additional foot and ankle AOPT infographics would further build the FASIGs role in the promotion of excellent foot and ankle physical therapy. We are in search of a new Practice Chair to spearhead this effort, and members to assist. Are you interested or particularly adept at treating a specific foot and ankle pathology? I bet the membership could benefit from your insight.
- Foot and Ankle article in *Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice (OPTP)* – stay tuned for a foot and ankle feature article this summer!
- AOFAS Annual Meeting 2022 – this collaborative educational experience will be here in September before we know it. The FASIG will again have a presence and offer programming at this event – consider attending or even helping the FASIG with our programming. It would be great to see you there.

*Frank DiLiberto, PT, PhD
FASIG President, 2022-2025*

The FASIG Leadership

<https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/foot-ankle>

We have a brand new course that can keep you up to date with the latest evidence:

Physical Therapy Management of Tendinopathies



<https://www.orthopt.org/course/32-1-physical-therapy-management-of-tendinopathies>



How's your tendon knowledge? Being a lifelong learner means testing yourself and seeing where you need to improve.

We created a quick quiz all about tendinopathies just for you.

It's free and doesn't take that long.

Give it a shot here if you want to see where you stand.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/66BV3LW>